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tional depth. Between 1,200 and 1,800 fathoms the temperature rises slowly to about 35° at the former depth. From 1,200 fathoms to the surface the thermometer rose steadily; surface temperatures ranging from 70° to 76° F.

The voyage occupied twenty-eight days, and the weather was exceptionally favorable. There are only sixty-five inhabitants on Peele Island, and the "Tuscarora" was the first visit of a naval vessel for more than seventeen years; Commodore Perry stopped at the island in 1853.

### ANTHROPOLOGY.

TROGLODYTES IN ALASKA.—In 1872, Mr. William H. Dall made some interesting discoveries of prehistoric remains in a cave on Amaknak Island, situated in Captain's Bay, Oonalaska, which he supposed exhausted the subject. In 1873, however, he found that he had left undisturbed a still lower stratum, and finally cleaned out the entire cave down to the bed rock. He ascertained that the whole interior of the cave had been painted over with a red pigment or chalky ore of iron, above which was a bed of organic mould about two feet in its greatest depth, in which were found three skeletons, surrounded by a rough sort of sarcophagus built of the jaws and ribs of whales, and around them were a large number of implements, especially of stone knives. This was covered in turn by a layer six inches or less in thickness of refuse material, the remains of repasts on marine animals, shell-fish, fish, and echini. Scattered irregularly over this were broken and worn implements of quite a different character from those found with the dead; and the whole indicated that this was only a resting-place of parties who used it temporarily while waiting an opportunity to cross the surf to the adjacent island. It was down to this lower stratum that the labors of the previous season had extended but without disturbing it.

A stratum of this latter portion was covered by a bed of shingle, evidently introduced by water, and supposed to be the actual bottom of the deposit. Mr. Dall is of the opinion that the skeletons found here are the oldest yet discovered in the Aleutian region, although not approaching in antiquity those discovered on Table Mountain, or the Neanderthal. He thinks the cave was first used as a burial-place, the mould over three skeletons having

accumulated by the decay of animal matter and of rubbish; and that the débris from the repasts of occasional visitors had been gathering for a great many years. An unusually high tide or storm probably brought in the shingle from the adjacent sea-beach, and after this the cave was again used as a deposit for the dead. Nothing was discovered indicating in any way that the place had been used or visited by the white races.

The total number of crania obtained by Mr. Dall amounted to thirty-six, besides many hundred implements of bone, ivory, and stone, and many carvings of wood and other objects, presenting evidence of the existence of large and flourishing communities numbering thousands of inhabitants where now none or only remnants of population exist.

Underneath the old villages were found still more ancient kitchen heaps of echini, fish bones, and edible shell-fish many feet in thickness, the age and time taken in forming them hardly to be approximated or counted even in centuries. Only in the upper strata were seen the indications of progress in hunting and fishing, afterward so notable that even the sperm whale succumbed to the attacks of these hardy canoe-men. Their progenitors were content to pick echini from the shore and mussels from the rocks, and hardly any implements could be found in the refuse of their repasts—the accumulation of centuries.

After them large villages of solidly constructed houses rose; and probably at the height of their progress and numerical increase the almost equally barbarous Russian of Siberia fell upon them, and nearly swept them from the face of the earth.—*Harpers' Weekly*.

EGYPTIAN ARCHEOLOGY.—At the meeting of the Anthropological Institute, June 9, Prof. Busk, F. R. S., president, in the chair, Sir John Lubbock, Bart., read a paper on the discovery of stone implements in Egypt. The author began with a sketch of the writings and opinions of M. Arcelin and Dr. Hamy, who maintained that the flint implements found along the valley of the Nile, including a hatchet of the St. Acheul type at Deir-el-Bahari, indicated the existence formerly of a true stone age there as in Western Europe. MM. Mortillet and Broca concurred in that view. On the other hand Dr. Pruner-Bey, and especially Dr. Lepsius, had expressed the opinion that most of the objects de-

scribed, such as the flint flakes, were naturally produced. M. Chabas also took the same view as Dr. Lepsius, and denied the existence of any evidence of a stone age in Egypt or elsewhere. On the occasion of a late visit to Egypt with the object of getting conclusive personal evidence on the question, the author found worked flints at various spots along the Nile Valley, especially in the valley of the tombs of the kings of Thebes, and at Abydos, and after carefully weighing the facts and arguments brought forward by MM. Lepsius and Chabas, he was disposed to agree with MM. Arcelin and Hamy in considering that these flint implements really belonged to the stone age, and were ante-Pharaonic. Sir John exhibited a full series of the Egyptian flint implements found by himself during his visit, and the paper concluded with a minute description of each specimen. Prof. Owen, F. R. S., then read a paper on the ethnology of Egypt. Since the observations recorded in 1861, by Dr. Pruner-Bey, on the race-characters of the ancient Egyptians, mainly based on the characters of skulls, evidences, in the author's opinion, of a more instructive kind have been discovered, chiefly by M. Mariette-Bey. They consist of portrait-sculptures, chiefly statues, found in tombs accompanied by hieroglyphic inscriptions revealing the name, condition, and date of decease. A study of those works led to the conclusion that three distinct types were indicated. (1) The primal Egyptian, bearing no trace of negro or Arab, but more nearly matched by a high European facies of the present day. (2) The type of the conquering race of Shepherd Kings, or Syro-Arabian, exemplified in the Assyrian sculptures. (3) The Nubian Egyptian, typified in the bas-relief figure of Cleopatra in the Temple of Denderah. In conclusion, the professor drew a graphic picture of the high state of civilization attained by the Primal Egyptian race, whose exquisite works, done six thousand years ago, are now rendered accessible to man. The paper was amply illustrated by a series of photographs, maps and diagrams.—*Nature*.

## MICROSCOPY.

IMPROVEMENTS IN INSECT MOUNTING.—The lesson of the fly in amber was one which took us a long time to learn, or rather which we never learned well until, now, its whole secret comes to us from India. Mr. Staniforth Green, of Ceylon, has sent a collec-